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URGENT NEED FOR COAL MINERS

Thames Valley Flooding

London, Mar. 13.
Danger warnings were flashed to villages along the upper Thames to-day as 12 hours of rain and melting snow banks pushed at least five major rivers out of their banks and flooded dozens of towns in Middle and Southern England.

The Thames at Windsor, three feet above normal, had already flooded part of the Castle grounds and was rising an inch an hour. Soaring temperatures, up to 54 degrees in some sections, sent snow water pouring into small tributaries. Thousands of acres of farmland were under water and lifeboats were called out to rescue families cut off by rising floods in isolated districts.

The police rowed to the front door of a house at Knotley Green and rescued a family which had awakened to find six feet of water in the living room. Railroads which were contending with new blizzards in North England and Scotland, had to curtail services to the South because of washouts. The southern railway line from London to Brighton was blocked by landslides of thousands of tons of earth, loosened by the thaw and continuous rain.

CUT OFF BY BLIZZARD
Scotland was almost cut off from England by a blizzard and the Lake District of Northern England reported its heaviest snowfall of the winter.

Drifts of 14 feet blocked all but one main road from England to Scotland. Passengers on several buses and at least one train spent the night trapped in snowdrifts in high mountain passes in Edinburgh. A husband and wife, who were wearing only thin dance frocks, were lost on rescue parties were searching through a blinding snow storm. The girls, all laundry workers, had attended a dance at which the "Laundry Queen" of Scotland was elected.

Besides the Thames, the River, Willard, Ouse and Plun were breaking through their banks and villages were reported under water in the Suffolk fenlands, Wiltshire, Surrey, Berkshire, Essex and Kent. Breaks in land transportation delayed deliveries of coal, but the easing of gales in the Channel allowed collier shipments to return to normal.—United Press.

CHURCHILL TO WARN GOVT.

London, March 13.
Mr Winston Churchill, Opposition Leader, is to be asked to warn Mr Clement Attlee, Prime Minister, that unless an assurance is received that the Labour Government will govern constitutionally and that Labour Ministers act within the law, it will be the duty of the Opposition to place the facts before the public and recommend them to petition the King to dissolve Parliament.

One thousand delegates to the conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations heard a member to-day recommend to the Executive Council of the Union that this request should be made to Mr Churchill.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

The Budget And Income Tax

Mr. Follows' budget speech yesterday was a superb example of suave readjustment between gloomy prediction and happy realization. He depressingly forecast 12 months ago that Hongkong would face a deficit of \$110,000,000 on March 31; in fact, it turns out to be less than half that amount. On recurrent items for the coming year the Financial Secretary estimates that he can balance the budget. The view of Mr. Follows' well-known cautiousness, the colony can confidently expect the final surplus to be substantially bigger. He gave, of course, the usual warnings: no surplus balances, no reserve fund, unknown debts of the past, the danger of an economic slump. But even those threats could not rob the speech of its most important conclusion: that the colony is much better off financially than our experts expected.

Government's decision to float a loan to meet non-recurrent expenditure is sensible. It helps to spread liability and will absorb a certain amount of idle capital—one of the biggest inflationary threats confronting the colony to-day. Nevertheless, pleasing though the estimates are in general form, there is room for justifiable criticism. Revenue designed to give a credit balance by the end of the financial year includes an estimated \$16,000,000 from income tax. That figure in itself is sufficient to deny the necessity or desirability of direct taxation. Mr. Follows tacitly admits that his revenue estimates are once again based on conservatism—that not only are they capable of being well exceeded, but that it is more than possible a number of expenditure items will be much less than forecast. It is conceivable that finally Government will require only about half of the \$16,000,000 earmarked as income tax contribution, and it is futile to suggest that any such amount could not be raised by alternative methods. The 1947-48 budget should give both the Taxation Committee and the Executive Council pause to think before they decide on any irrevocable decision regarding the imposition of direct taxation.

England Facing Big Industrial Setback

London, Mar. 13.

Britain faces a greater industrial setback than there has been this winter, unless at least 35,000 more men enter the coal industry in the near future, Mr Arthur Horner, General Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, told United Press in an exclusive interview.

This 52-year-old stocky, bespectacled Communist, a member of the General Council of the Trade Union Congress and one of the most dynamic personalities in British trade unionism, was the only public man who prophesied several months ago that this winter an unprecedented coal crisis would cause a large scale industrial breakdown and the unemployment of 1,000,000 men.

For years Horner has urged the Government to take action to bring more men to the mines, by improving conditions and offering them special incentives.

"The simple fact is that the less than 700,000 men now working in the mining industry are quite insufficient to produce the country's need of coal," he said. "Do not blame the miners for the coal crisis—they are out to the last inch. Recent production figures prove that. And 150,000 of them are over 50 years of age."

Mr Horner said that 730,000 men would give the mine industry an "effective manpower" of 885,000, as the nature of the work made it physically impossible for a miner to guarantee to work the full number of days a week. In addition, one in every four miners was injured every year.

Attracting men into the coal industry was Britain's most vital problem of the moment, Mr Horner said. The National Union of Mineworkers had definite ideas how this could be done, which he and other Union representatives placed before the Prime Minister and his Emergency Coal Committee.

WAGES INSUFFICIENT

"The present weekly minimum wage of £5 for underground work and £4 10s for work above ground is not enough," Mr Horner said. "Personally I think that, by to-day's standards, a miner's work is worth £10 a week, but we are not going to ask for that. But we want an all-round increase of £2 a week. You must have a minimum of £7 a week to-day to maintain a family."

He recalled that, before the war, Britain's miners had been 86th from the top in the list of the country's wage rates.

Other incentives would also have to be offered by the government to get the required manpower, he said. The coal field had to have absolute housing priority, as well as priority of scarce consumer goods. At present, Mr Horner said, men preferred to draw unemployment benefit to working in the mines.

Mr Horner said his union was strongly opposed to directing men to work in the mines. Mining was a skilled job and only willing men could do it. He pointed out, however, that miners were at present prevented from leaving the industry by the Essential Works Order.

OPPOSES FOREIGN LABOUR

Though Mr Horner fully recognizes the need for more men in Britain's coal mines, he is against the use of foreign labour. Only under the greatest pressure and strictest safeguards had his union agreed to allow former

Polish soldiers to work in the pits, and there had to be no consultations about the employment of any other foreigners.

"I do not believe foreigners could be welded into the manpower of this country in any large numbers," Mr Horner said. "Firstly, on grounds of ideology, for our miners are very progressive and unanimously anti-Fascist. Secondly, I do not think sufficient will volunteer."

On no account, he said, would the union allow any foreigners directed into the industry. All would have to join voluntarily. "In all cases of employment of foreigners, the union will insist on the most complete assurances that the utilization of such a labour force would not be used to circumvent the status of the British mineworker," Mr Horner said.

Asked about the possible employment of German prisoners of war, Mr Horner said: "We have told the government that if individual prisoners of war volunteer for minework, we have no objection to accepting them. But they must volunteer, must be accepted as union members and must work under union conditions. We shall not tolerate forced prisoner labour."

Mr Horner said he believed that, in principle, those German prisoners able to work in coal mines should be speedily repatriated to mine coal in the Ruhr and the Saar.

"RIDICULOUS"

Commenting on the possibility of government's importing of displaced persons and other foreigners to work in Britain's coal mines, Mr Horner said this was a "ridiculous proposition." He added: "There have been no conversations on this subject, and the government have not consulted my union in any way, nor have we sanctioned the employment of these people."

According to Mr Horner, those displaced persons who are in good health were mainly Nazis and Fascists, whom the union would not agree to have in the industry. Those with a democratic outlook had been so badly treated that it would take many months to rehabilitate them. He said that whatever the trend of future events would be, his union would insist on three qualifications for any foreigner allowed to work in British mines: (1) a knowledge of English, as the employment of any one not knowing the language in a coal mine might cause a serious disaster; (2) that there would have to be no compulsion; (3) that all men working in the mines would have to be trained for their job.

He said Britain's miners were politically conscious and placed the general need of the working class above their own temporary advantage. But though the coal mines were now nationalized under a Labour Government, his union remained completely independent and reserved its freedom of action to improve the status of its members.—United Press.

HONOUR FOR LUCY WANG

Boston, Mar. 13.

Boston University to-day conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities on Miss Lucy Wang, president of Hwanan College, Foochow, and one of China's most distinguished educators.

Miss Wang is a descendant of five generations of Chinese scholars. She is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

When the Japanese overran her college, she carried on in the interior of the country by moving much equipment there.—Associated Press.

Postage Stamps

Arrive

The Postmaster-General announced this morning that a quantity of postage stamps in denominations of 50 cents, \$1, \$2 and \$5 has just arrived. The stamps are now available for public sale.

The consignment comprises: 25 cents—54,000; 50 cents—246,000; \$1—442,680; \$2—9,600; \$5—60,720. More stamps of similar denominations are on the way, and officials are confident there will be no future shortages.

The stamps have been on order for many months past, but their despatch from England has been delayed.

Soviets Still Hankering For China Discussion

GENERAL MARSHALL'S ATTITUDE

Moscow, Mar. 14.
Foreign Minister V. M. Molotov asked the United States and Britain to discuss the Chinese question informally. This was confirmed by the Soviet Radio after reports were heard that Mr Molotov had sent a note on the subject to the U.S. Secretary of State George C. Marshall and the British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin.

Threats Screamed In Assembly

Paris, Mar. 13.

The explosive French National Assembly debate on the war in Indo-China to-day broke up in an uproar when Rightist deputies screamed threats at a Viet-Nam representative sitting in the Visitors' Gallery.

The presence of the representative, Duong Bac May, was discovered by a Right Wing deputy just after former premier Paul Reynaud had denounced him by name from the floor as the "bloody hangman responsible for the murder of Frenchmen."

Deputy Jean Legendre of the Republican Party of Liberty (PRL) immediately shouted, "And there the murderer is—throw him out!" he pointed to Duong, who was sitting blank-faced among the spectators. Other PRL members took up the cry, "Assassin," "Throw him in prison," "He comes to gloat."

TUMULTUOUS

The Communists began shouting from the left of the Chamber, "Stay"—"He has a right"—"Stick to your rights."

The ensuing tumult rivalled that of the last session of the debate on Tuesday night, when flagflutters between Right and Left deputies forced suspension until this afternoon.

Duong got up and started to leave when the threats began, but when the Communists shouted, "We will defend you, Stay," he sat down again. All eyes in the Chamber turned to him. He shifted uneasily in his seat, but otherwise showed no emotion. He remained silent as the tumult grew louder on the floor. Finally, the session was suspended by the Assembly President, M. Edouard Herriot, and the door to the Visitors' Gallery was bolted by guards so none of the enraged deputies could reach the Viet-Nam representative.

CORRIDORS WRANGLE

There was no escape for Duong even if he did not take up the Communist challenge to "stay like a man." The deputies continued to shout at each other in the corridors. Several of them had black eyes from Tuesday's scuffling. The Communists insisted that Duong carried a diplomatic passport and had committed no irregularity to justify his expulsion from the Chamber.

Duong is one of two diplomatic representatives in the permanent Viet-Nam mission which the Viet-Nam president Ho Chi Minh left in Paris after negotiations last year.—United Press.

U. S. CONTEMPLATING AID TO HUNGARY

Reactions To Truman's Speech

Washington, Mar. 13.

The United States Government has under consideration various possible means of extending additional economic assistance to Hungary, Reuter learned authoritatively to-day.

State Department officials declined to comment upon their continuing programme of economic aid to Hungary or to relate it to President Truman's expression of United States determination to prevent the subjugation of free people to Communist-inspired totalitarian regimes.

They recalled, however, that when granting to the Hungarian Government the \$15,000,000 increase in surplus property credit last month, the Department issued a statement saying:

"It is hoped that arrangements can be concluded at an early date under which further economic aid for Hungary will be forthcoming."

The future of British military and police missions in Greece would be a matter for agreement between Britain and the United States, they said.

The Greek inner cabinet met this morning to draft a message to the Greek people, announcing President Truman's proposals for assistance. The security of space in the single page of Athens newspapers prevented much comment on President Truman's message, but his statement was reported under banner headlines.—Reuter.

TROOPS FOR GREECE

Athens, Mar. 13.

Official Greek spokesmen said that President Truman's request for "United States military and civilian personnel" to be sent to Greece must be interpreted as implying the eventual arrival of American troops in Greece.

The future of British military and police missions in Greece would be a matter for agreement between Britain and the United States, they said.

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EQUIPMENT FOR TURKEY

Istanbul, Mar. 13.

Some of the aid by President Truman in his message to Congress last night will be used to provide the Turkish Army with modern equipment to enable it to "face efficiently any emergency and to remain 'Middle East' bastion of free nations", official sources declare in Ankara to-day.

The first reactions to President Truman's speech are summed up by one Turkish observer as follows: "Although the Turks are resolved if need be to oppose the Soviet claims alone with an army of 1,000,000 they never doubted that British and American sympathies would eventually crystallise into such material support."

American credits will also be used to strengthen Turkish economy and speed up the industrialisation plans.—Reuter.

ACTION TO BE SOUGHT

Washington, Mar. 14.

The Senate Republican leaders arranged for an early decision on President Harry Truman's proposal to bolster Greece and Turkey against communism.

They will seek action on the proposal by March 31, when the British plan to renege. Senator Robert Taft, Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee announced that March 31 is "a firm date" by which the administration wants congress to complete the action.

Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee also set the same date for a deadline in announcing plans for his group to hold public hearings.

He suggested that the house of the Foreign Affairs Committee also hold

hearings. The plan is for the house to act first on the proposals—providing U.S.\$400,000,000 in cash and authorising indirect military help.

What the House does will largely determine whether the deadline is met, despite plans laid by the Senate leaders.—Associated Press.

PRESS ASTONISHED

London, Mar. 13.

The British press is astonished at the bluntness of President Truman's message in Congress and the far-reaching change in the United States policy which it implies. On the whole, reaction is favourable.

The Independent Times says that the request for \$400,000,000 to help Greece and Turkey was bold and the arguments with which he supported it were bolder still. "His speech will reverberate widely and not the least in Moscow, where its effect should be at least to increase the candour and realism of the Foreign Ministers' discussion. It may also, with advantage extend their scope."

"A firm American policy will be very far from being aggressive and if it brings greater security to the world it will be security benefiting all without exception."

The Conservative Daily Telegraph thinks that President Truman has "shown penetrating insight into the needs of the moment and has taken a bold and courageous step in immediately appealing to Congress to meet the nation's responsibilities with appropriate action."

DISTURBING PESSIMISM

The Labour Daily Herald, urging on all Americans that the only way to avoid war is to work for unity among the great powers, says that the most disturbing aspect of President Truman's statement is its pessimism.

"The question is to what extent will the American people as a whole accept the thesis that the well-being of the world rests mainly upon the might of the United States as a counter-force to the might of Russia?"

"If that belief takes hold of America—and it is matched as it will be by increasing hostility in Russia—the prospect of an armed clash between the two greatest powers on earth becomes frighteningly clear. And such a clash in the atom age would finally destroy our sick civilization," it declares.

President Truman's statement is roundly condemned by the Communist Daily Worker. "Stripped of its verbiage, the President's speech means that Greece and Turkey are now to become colonial appendages of the United States," it asserts.

"The real purpose of the American dollars is to save the tottering rulers of Greece and dictators of Turkey and to drive back the advancing forces of Democracy. There is no more reason why the United States should be interested in seizing Greece and Turkey as protection against the Soviet Union than the Soviet Union should be interested in seizing Cuba and Mexico as protection against the United States."—Reuter.

WHAT TASS THINKS

Moscow, Mar. 14.

Tass, circulating to the Russian press the first account of President Truman's speech, declared: "Frankly it is directed against the democratic elements in Greece."—Associated Press.

WHEAT, MEAT FOR BRITAIN

London, Mar. 13.

The Food Minister, Mr John Strachey, just back from Washington and Canada, told a press conference that he had arranged for enough deliveries of meat and wheat to sustain Britain's present austere rations.

He denied that there was any sign of a food crisis for Britain in the next few months, unless conditions radically altered, which he did not expect.

However, following his usual practice, he would not predict when bread and meat rationing would end. He expressed "hope" that bread rationing might end this summer, but admitted: "It is just a hope."—United Press.

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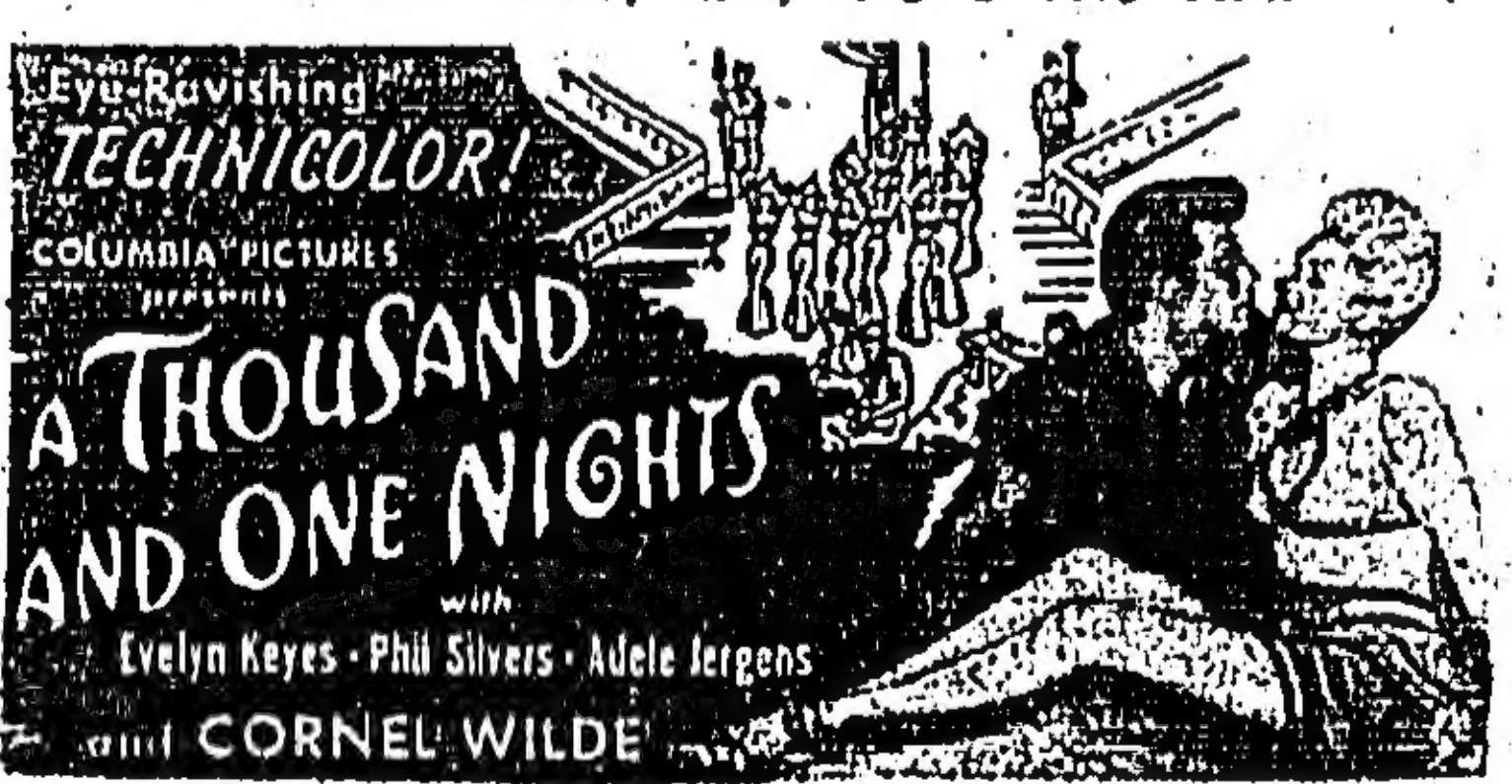
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Next Change: "PINOCCHIO"

By PAUL HOLT

How To Live On The Cheap

MY friend the Spiv was asking me if I would like to buy a brand new ten horsepower car for £700. "It's got a left-hand drive," he said mysteriously.

"You mean it was made for export?"

"Well, originally it was. But somehow it fell off the lorry at the docks, and what with one thing and another, they must have decided to sell it there. You'll see lots of left-hand drives these days round about the ports," said my friend the Spiv in a defensive tone of voice.

"At £700?" I asked.

"Oh, I know what you're going to say. Black-marketeering. But I ask you. D'you know what'd happen to that car if it hadn't somehow fallen off the lorry? Right? I'll tell you. Shipped to China, shall we say? Price on leaving England £340. Price on unloading to the dealer in China—£440. Price ten minutes after leaving the dealer's showroom—£1,400, and going up! £700's cheap," said my friend the Spiv.

I said I hadn't looked at it that way.

"You have to, you have to," he replied sadly. "Why, friend of mine, just back from America... went to work the fubs" for a spell. Feeling patriotic, he went into a liquor store, asked for a bottle of Scotch whisky. Our life blood, as you might say, and exported from dear old Scotland at a few bob a bottle. Know what the man asked him? £4. And you say £3 10s. a bottle's outrageous here in London. £3 10s. a bottle's cheap," said the Spiv.

*Professional gamblers in Transatlantic liners thus refer to their trade.

The spiv looked at me with distaste. . . . I knew I had done wrong to earn a salary

I SAID that maybe to a gentleman of fortune like himself £3 10s. a bottle was a throw-away price, but for myself, being a member of the salaried classes, it was murder and left very little indeed with which to buy my starving children new shoes.

"Salary? Salary? Ho-ho-ho! He gets a salary," cried my friend, summoning the attention of half a dozen wealthy and indolent characters who were sipping large whiskies at the bar of the little club.

(The decor was a lush mixture of Queen Anne and Madame Pompadour, with a few sporting prints on the wall and a Topolski print of Churchill behind the ample bar. The barmaid was a retired chorine with wary eyes.) My companions now looked at me with distaste. I knew at once that I had done wrong, to earn a salary.

"I got an expense account, too," I said, rather like a small boy defending his mother's honour.

"Expense account! Old-fashioned nonsense! Why, boy,

what you want to do is to go to your managing director and ask him if he'll buy some shares you happen to have. Doesn't matter what they are.

"He buys 'em for a nish sum, doing you the great favour of cutting your salary in half at the same time—and where are you? No income tax to pay (profits on shares are capital appreciation and outside Jolly Jack Dalton's clutch, see?)—twice as rich and twice as happy. Next year you just repeat the dose."

I said I thought my managing director might have as many shares as he cared for, although I had once successfully sold him a spaniel bitch puppy. I asked him politely if he knew any other wrinkles.

Eating Out

"WELL, of course, there's always 'bolstering,'" he said, a bit doubtfully. "All you need is a cheque-book and a few places where you're known. Nowadays, I'd say it's better to choose a small place. Soho kind of restaurant. Well, you call for your bill and it's a liver, so you make out the cheque for ten, collect the change and move on.

"Eating steadily, and providing your geography is good, you can get up to 60 quid a week free for a while. It's not exactly happy cabbage, but it's not hay..." said the Spiv.

I asked what happened when the cheques were presented.

"Oh, by that time you've got a friend with an overdrawn bank account and a spare cheque to make out the 60 in your favour and you pay it in. Then, of course, you make one out for him and he pays it in to his bank."

"Mind you, I'm not recommending it to amateurs. The whole thing depends on the timing and it can get a bit tricky, particularly if you have more than two accounts running. Like seven-card stud with one-eyed Jacks wild... that's what it's like," said my friend, after a mature consideration.

I said I thought it better for me to leave bolstering alone; hadn't he something a little more active?

GREECE IS HOT TO HANDLE

IF the United States takes over British responsibility in Greece, she will be brought into a bankrupt, hungry nation of 7,000,000 which Britain has found too hot to handle. As a business investment the return will be almost nil. As a long-term investment in real estate, the United States may—cheaply—have purchased future security against a further Soviet march toward the Mediterranean.

Britain's position in Greece has been deteriorating since the December 1944 revolt exploded Winston Churchill's dream of a united pro-British Greece, barring the Soviet southward drive. Since then the Communist-led Leftist extreme has grown stronger politically and militarily, and Churchill has been overthrown.

In 1947, Britain finds herself unable and unwilling to pour dollars sterling into Greece to support a regime distasteful to the new Labour Government.

British "responsibilities" in Greece have been:

1. Political. This means to keep the Russians out. The December revolt was the beginning of a shooting war over this issue, although the British now only supply train and advise the Greek Army.

2. Economic. This means to keep the Greek Government led by the Communists. With Britain feeling she can no longer assure the safety of Greece from Communist or Soviet domination, the American responsibility would be restoration of the nation's economy, feeding the hungry and eradicating the main causes of discontent and insecurity which nourish revolt and encourage the people to accept any political rule which offers hope.

Another American responsibility would be to try to figure out a way to oust the increasingly unpopular regime without letting in the extreme Left. This problem, completely defeated the British.

3. Military. Unless GIs arrive, American military assistance in Greece probably will consist of purchasing British equipment from British factories and using it to strengthen the Greek Army, thus benefiting Britain's industry and Greece's fight against armed opposition. Britain now has about 40,000 men in Greece, and although she announced that the troops would be withdrawn they may remain, since Secretary of State Gen. George Marshall has reportedly asked Britain to keep them there.

Had Britain withdrawn and the United States failed to move in, the following might have happened in the above three categories:

Britain has informed the United States that she cannot afford to keep up her commitments in Greece after March 31, and President Truman has promised financial assistance if Britain will keep her troops in the country. The position in the light of these developments is here discussed by United Press correspondent

ROBERT VERMILLION

tion by propping up the drachmae with gold pounds. American dollars now will perform the same service. Britain's chief economic aim in Greece has been co-ordinating the establishment of British markets with reconstruction of the country, and where this is impossible very little has been done. UNRRA is doing the most feeding and rebuilding.

The American responsibility will be rehabilitation of the country with no strings attached, except a vigilant watch over every dollar spent.

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Had Britain withdrawn and the United States failed to move in, the following might have happened in the above three categories:

Political. Armed opposition, taking advantage of the economic collapse and the Government's inability to continue to support an adequate army could, with help from the north moving in freely with no Anglo-Americans around to watch and protect, seize power in a matter of months.

Economic. Complete ruin. Greece needs at least US\$75,000,000 soon to guarantee a bread and olive oil diet in the latter part of 1947.

Military. See political. The United States will be pressed for new elections by both Greece's Left and Centre. The political strength is now lined up roughly as follows: Rigid Monarchists, 35 percent; extreme Leftists or Communists, 15 percent. Between these two is a broad mass of middle-of-the-road people who just want peace but have no leadership to direct them politically, and were forced to vote Left or Right.

What leadership of the middle mass does exist is split among powerful hungry politicians in Athens, who refuse to unite lest unity cost them a little of the political power now held.

The Greeks' reactions to Gen. Marshall and President Truman's statements are mixed, depending how hungry, how far Left and how rich they are. The peasants and non-Communist workers have always looked to America as a future saviour. They constitute the majority, and will be the strongest supporters of American policy in Greece.

The Communists are furious about what they call a "third occupation" as undesirable as the British one.

Certain businessmen and politicians, growing rich on the present situation and already badly shaken by prodding into their financial affairs, are now saying bitterly: "Beware of the Americans bearing dollars."



"WELL now, mind you, I wouldn't confess this to anybody. But some nights when I find myself just a little bit of a dog, and work the pencil trick for an hour or two, it's not exactly a noble occupation, but it passes the time pleasantly enough."

I asked him what one needed to work the pencil trick besides a pencil.

"Ah that's just exactly what you don't want, a pencil. Not even a pen that writes under water. It's simple. All you do is to spot a likely gentleman... it's better to choose one of the labouring classes, they have more money. And you ask him if you can borrow his pencil. "Places you in his debt, see? Then you do the business, marking your card in a heavy and ostentatious manner. Then you lend the pencil back with your sweetest smile and your loudest Much Obligated I'm Sure, and you walk away. You'd be surprised at the number of times curiosity makes 'em catch you up to ask which dog it was you ringed, the blessed murr."

"Then, of course, it's easy. You're putting it on for the trainer. There's

only one bookie who doesn't seem to have caught on the coup that's cooking. Right down the other end of the ring. There's only a second to go. Quick, give me your tennar! You're on!... Keeps your weight down," said the Spiv reflectively.

Trying Out

ALL at once he brightened. "Now, how about that left-hand drive car?" he asked impulsively.

I said I wasn't interested. "I must be getting old," said the Spiv. "After all that come-on I've been giving you."

I asked what come-on? "Why, if it had been an ordinary fellow I'd have talked about how coal shares were a good buy and unloading industrials, or talked about how I was planning to take the wife and kiddies to South Africa (that's a sure-fire one these days) or given him the 'Have you heard the latest about Shinwell?' routine. But you, being a news-paperman, I thought you might fall for the malarkey. Never mind..." said the Spiv.

We drank silently for a while.

BY THE WAY by Beachcomber

THE other day, says my paper, a kangaroo shot a man through the arm. That must have provided a hearty laugh for the mouse who drank a bottle of whisky and then shouted, "Now show me that confounded cat!"

When I was Treasurer of the St. Albans and Hatfield Mushroom Society we arranged a wrestling match between a giraffe and a kangaroo. It was a very dull affair, as they never got to grips, but it was the means of my meeting old Gregory, and on that day a friendship began which has continued without fun or profit to either of us for close on 30 years. A siller old fool than Gregory—but a true to such bitterness.

How to do it

THE boom in faked paintings is assuaging argillaceous proportions. But the fakers are not very subtle. They imitate Renoir and sign the picture Renoir. The thing to do is imitate Renoir, sign it with some ordinary name, take it to a dealer and say, "Look at this. It appears to be only a Vaurien, but I believe it's a Renoir." A long inspection and discussion will follow. The faker then

scratches the signature with his nail. "I say," he cries, "look here! Under the signature of Vaurien appears the well-known signature of Renoir. I thought so," says the faker, and collects his money from the interested and startled dealer.

I am surprised there is not a craze for faking the more debased forms of modern sculpture. Any lump of stone with blubber lips, a huge belly and a Mongolian head, called "Starlight," would deceive anybody but the public. Critics and intellectuals would go mad about it. "The strange, sombre, forceful, dynamic beauty of a transitional epoch." Bow-wow.

Butch Garbo and Lefty Dietrich

THE last time I saw Mrs. Dietrich in a film, she had abandoned the lard-faced heavier-than-air allurements of her early days, and was mixed up in a tavern brawl. And the last time I saw Butch Garbo in a film she was pretending to be drunk (refined critics called it intoxicated). I prophesied for both little creatures a very tough future. And now Mrs. Dietrich is to play a wild, tipsy, covered with dust and leaves, And Butch Garbo? Dick Turpin, I hope.

According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

It is comforting to have two stoppers in the opponents' long suit, but discretion in the use of those stoppers is often indispensable. Otherwise to-day's deal:

South, dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ A 7 4
♥ 10 5
♦ K J 8 2
♣ 10 4

EAST
♠ Q 10 3
♥ J 9 8 2
♦ A 10 8 7
♣ 5 3

SOUTH
♠ K 2
♥ A K
♦ Q 8 5
♠ A K 8 7

The bidding:
South: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.
North: 1♣, 2♥, 3♥, 4♥, 5♥, 6♥, 7♥.

West opened his fourth-highest heart. At the second trick South laid down the diamond queen, and East, rejoicing in his two sure

aces for the defence.

NANCY Worse and More of It

BRRR---DIS COLD WEATHER IS AWFUL



MAYBE DAT WOULD WARM ME UP



BOY WANTED TO DELIVER PACKAGES



BRR-RR



When You Feel Tired and Restless

take
Elliotts Nerve and Brain Tonic

On Sale at All Dispensaries

Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Ida Lupino for Lois Leeds.

Lois Leeds gives you direct answers and good advice.

"DEAR LOIS LEEDS"

"Dear Lois Leeds—My body skin is dry and itchy and after every bath is red and even drier. Help!"

—LOUISE.
You should check this condition with your physician. Perhaps it is a matter of diet regulation. For local relief, try oatmeal baths or use lavender meal to soften the water. Rinse well and massage with a creamy hand lotion. Avoid extremes in water temperatures—it must be neither freezing cold nor very hot.

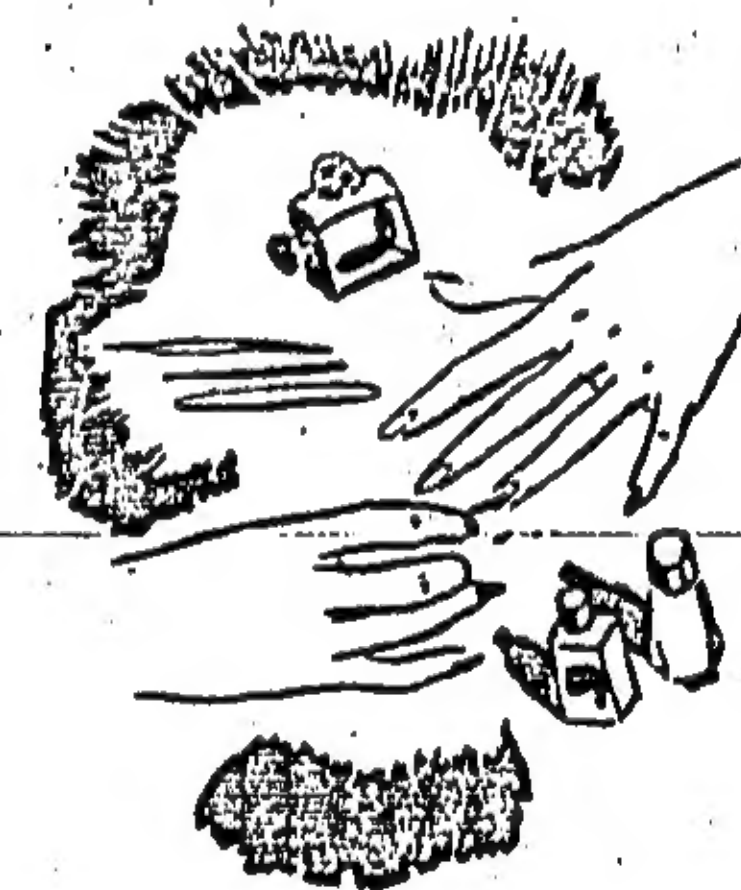
"Dear Lois Leeds—My wrists are very slender. How can I dress them up?"—MISSY.

Wide cuff bracelets will do the trick! And wear long gloves, crushed down at the wrists. Both gloves and bracelets are beautifying and very fashionable.

"Dear Lois Leeds—My pores are so coarse. Is there something that will help to refine them?"—MRS. B. F.

Yes, astringent for toning and an astringent cream, often called "pore cream". Apply lightly every night.

Minute Makeup
by GABRIELLE



If your nail polish wears off easily, try removing a hairline of the lacquer before it dries. If your lips are not smooth, use a bit of cold cream before you apply your lipstick. If wisps of hair hang loose try a tiny touch of damp soap rubbed up on the hair.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"My children have asked me to live with them, but I want to keep on being their friend!"

China's Civil War Is The Chief Enemy Of Yellow River Project

Concluding a new series of articles

By JOHN RODERICK
Associated Press Staff Correspondent

Shortsightedness, technical miscalculation and nature's capriciousness have combined to block the Yellow River project, but the most prevalent and powerful antagonist is the Chinese civil war.

The magnificent plan for returning this natural giant to its old northern course could not but run counter to the stratagems of war worked out on the drawing boards of militarists in Nanking and Yenan.

This fact became unmistakably evident in mid-July 1946. O. J. Todd, UNRRA's chief engineer in charge of the project saw hundreds of feet of the dam he had nearly completed for stopping the southward escape of the waters wiped out by a premature flood weeks before. Unwilling to admit defeat, he hurriedly began preparing for a partial diversion of the river into its old bed by the end of July.

The civil war intruded abruptly into his calculations.

A look at the map in the area will show the reason why.

The Lunghai railroad, China's main east to west artery, runs just south of the Yellow River. The floods had washed out the bridge in this region. In this general area, also, the north-south rail line connecting Peiping and Hankow joins the Lunghai by means of a strip between Kaifeng and Hsiao-chi. To divert the river might wash out the only railway bridge across the then waterless old river bed. National armies based on Kaifeng and moving northward towards the Communist stronghold of Hsiao-chi would be cut off from transportation.

The government ordered Todd to stop his preparations.

Then, on July 25, a second major agreement was signed by UNRRA, CNRRA and the Communist CLARA, which is CNRRA's Red counterpart, for a payment to the settlers on the old river bed who had to move out of the way of the impending flow of water.

Nanking Countermanded

Nanking countermanded the order to Todd, and the stage appeared set for a resumption of work. At this point the Communists started a drive on the Lunghai railway, burned one of Todd's supply trains and caused further delays.

By October, the government still had not made the promised payment, and UNRRA threatened to withdraw unless action was taken. The Executive Yuan approved CNRRA's agreement and plans were again made to close the gap by January 1. Yenan raised a storm of objection, pointing out that though the government had approved, the money still had not been delivered.

By now, the river had begun to filter back into its old route and a trickle of muddy water began washing towards the sea on December 23. The Communists advised Todd that if he did not halt his efforts, they could not be responsible for the consequences. That they could easily have blown up the entire project is agreed. Convinced, he acquiesced, but the Yellow River Conservancy Commission, a government organ, made it known that it had a direct order from Chiang Kai-shek to push on.

Another Washout

By the middle of January a considerable flow had passed Kaifeng. Meanwhile, another washout of the restraining dam caused another delay.

The Communists next charged that the project was being made a weapon of war, since by its early diversion it would cut off the Communists in Shantung—against whom the government has recently opened a major drive—from their western bases.

On February 10 in Shanghai a compromise was announced. Todd was directed to proceed immediately to supervise repair of the old dykes while a convoy of relief supplies was dispatched to the flooded areas in the south. There was provision for building new dykes but no mention was made of the deferred payments, or the UNRRA project for building industries. The Communists, it was assumed, were satisfied by the prospect of further postponement, though nothing was said publicly on this point.

Relief Sent

In late February, the way again appeared opened for resumption of progress when a major agreement was made, to the satisfaction of Yenan, providing for the shipment of some 22,000 tons of goods to the Red-held areas of the old bed. These are to be distributed to the settlers who already are reported moving in a trickle away from the lands they moved on to eight years ago.

UNRRA dispatched a man to Kaifeng to begin parcelling out five billion Chinese dollars to aid in the removal.

The river, meanwhile, is flowing in a thin, muddy stream less than a foot deep in some sections.

The recent agreement made it apparent that the government is now committed to the UNRRA-suggested programme of building numerous small industries to employ the displaced persons. Factories for the manufacture of matches, cloth,

cigarettes and paper and for weaving and dyeing are scheduled—if the promises are carried out—to spring up.

Direct Relief

One third of the 15 billion which the National Government has agreed to appropriate for the resettlement will go into direct relief. Another third will pay for equipment in setting up the new industries.

Proof of the new note of co-operation is the erection at Shanghai of the resettlement work, of a radio transmitter manned by Communists for constant communication with Shanghai headquarters of UNRRA.

With these preparations made and steps already begun an early closure of the gap, perhaps by early spring, is foreseeable.

London Gang War Feared

There is a restless shifting of smallest time racketeers under way in London's bright lights district—the West End—and Scotland Yard is preparing for an outbreak of gang warfare on a far larger and grimmer scale than the previous razor slashings and beatings that characterised the "protection rump."

The Yard is afraid that gang warfare this time may mean guns. Most racketeers were in the forces during the war and acquired the habit of using weapons. Already there have been threats of shootings, but most of the damage so far has been done by the inevitable razor or black-jack. Brass knuckle-dusters are also in action.

When the battle is joined—and there have been a few skirmishes in night clubs and restaurants already—it will be for control of the black market, for the profitable street barrow trade in fruit, but mostly for the rights to "protect" night clubs and bookmakers at the tracks.

At the tracks, racketeers pass around what is known as "the Golden Bucket." From this the bookmaker lifts the sponge to swab his blackboard clean for the new prices. In return for this service he must drop a sum of money into the bucket.

Night Club "Protection"

As in the United States, night clubs which deny they need protection have windows broken, guests intimidated or other violence done.

Two of the toughest gangs go under the names of "King's Cross" and "Aldgate"—both being the names of sections of London. But they are drawn to the West End by the better chance of loot.

One of the worrying factors to police about the outbreak is the effrontery of the current gangs. Recently they selected one of the best known and biggest public restaurants in the West End, directly on Piccadilly, for a battle with chairs and bottles.—United Press.

Chinese Nurses In Melbourne

Two Chinese nurses from Singapore have arrived in Melbourne for two years' specialised training in child and infant welfare.

The nurses, Alice Chia and Oei Soh, are the first holders of the A.T.F. Malayan Nursing Scholarships. They began graduate studies at Melbourne's Children's Hospital a few days after their arrival.

The scholarships were awarded by the wartime Australian overseas army as a gesture of appreciation of the aid given by Chinese people in Singapore to Australian troops taken prisoner by the Japanese.—Associated Press.

Women For Bengal Medical Service

For the first time in its history, the Government of Bengal has appointed five women doctors to the provincial medical service. Four are Hindus and the fifth is a Muslim, says Associated Press.



ALLIED HQ MOVING TO LEGHORN

The oldest Allied Forces headquarters, started by General Dwight Eisenhower in Africa and located at Caserta since early 1944, will be transferred to Leghorn on April 6 as one of the last moves in the Anglo-American evacuation of Italy, it was announced to-night.

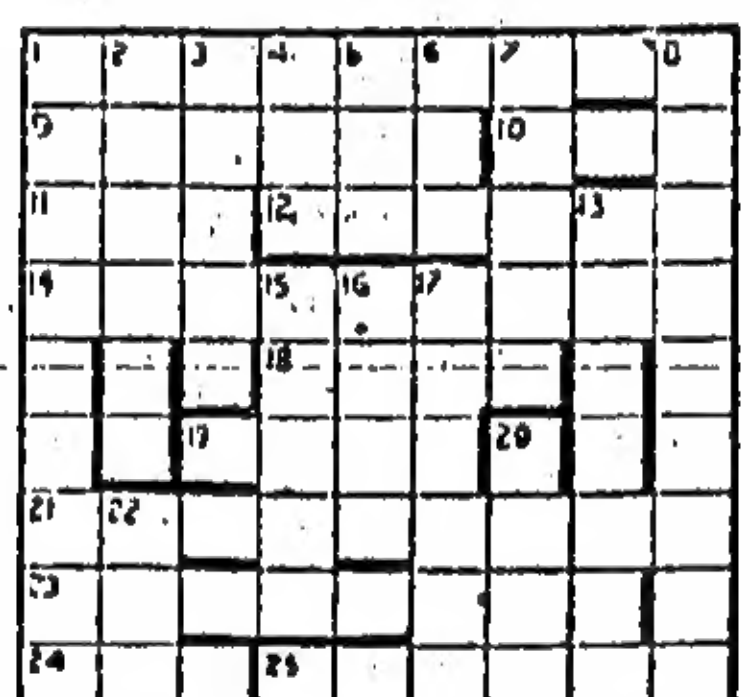
Lt-Gen John Lee, acting Supreme Allied Commander for the Mediterranean, told a press conference that Leghorn also would be used as a port for redeploying 23,000 American troops and a slightly larger British force. Completion of redeployment, he said, was scheduled 90 days after ratification of the Italian treaty, now expected about April 1.

There are approximately 28,000 American troops in Italy, 5,000 of whom are destined to form the American occupation unit in Trieste. The remainder will be redeployed, those with overseas duty yet to complete being sent to Germany and the rest back to the United States.

Asked whether the Italian treaty would become effective if Italy did not ratify, Gen. Lee said the effective ratification date, as far as the Allies were concerned, would be the day on which the Big Four deposit their ratifications of the treaty in Paris.

Gen. Lee said that his personal belief was that Italy would ratify the treaty, but he added: "If she does not ratify it, she will receive no benefits from it. One of those benefits presumably will be the moving out of British and American troops. If Italy doesn't ratify, we might not move out."

CROSSWORD



Across
1. Houdini. (5)
2. Scene of brutal murder. (8)
3. Swire's (3)
4. Overgrown. (5)
5. Childhood talk, mostly ironic. (8)
6. Guard the common. (4)
7. Houdini. (5)
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Rupert & the New Pal—3



At length Mrs. Bear finishes her long list of things to be bought in the village and Rupert looks at it carefully. "My, what a lot," he says. "What'll I carry it all in?" He chooses the largest basket and runs off, but outside the cottage he stops abruptly. "I say, can't I take the garden trolley?" he cries. "I could get everything into it in one journey!" "Very well, but take care of it," replies Mrs. Bear. So, after emptying out the leaves, he sets off with it gaily.

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LAST TWO DAYS
★ KINGS ★
At 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.
RED SKELTON
ELEANOR POWELL
"SHIP AHOY"
M-G-M'S SMASH-MUSICAL COMEDY HIT
With Bert LAHR • Virginia O'BRIEN
ADDED! Latest Metro-News!
COMMENCING SUNDAY

BEERY O'BRIEN
"BAD BASCOMB"
Marjorie MAIN • J. Carrol NAISH
Frances RAFFERTY • Marshall THOMPSON
Screen Play by William Lippman and Owen
Garrett • Original Story by D. A. Lasker
Directed by S. SYLVAN SIMON
Produced by ORVILLE G. DUNN

LEE THEATRE
TOWN BOOKING OFFICE
W. HARRING & CO. ALEXANDRA BLDG., GR. FL.
BETWEEN 11.00 A.M. AND 5.00 P.M. DAILY
LAST FOUR SHOWS TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.10 & 9.15 P.M.
As Mr. Winkle Goes... So Goes Your Heart
Edward G. ROBINSON
"MR. WINKLE GOES TO WAR"
With MARJORIE MAIN, BOB WALKER, BOB WALKER, BOB WALKER

ADDED FUNNY SHORTS
"DIZZY DETECTIVES"
with
THREE STOOGES
COMING SOON!

OBJECTIVE BURMA
ERROL FLYNN
with WILLIAM PRINCE • JAMES BROWN • DICK EDDMAN
GEO. TOBIAS • HENRY HULL • WARNER ANDERSON
Directed by RALPH WALSH
Original Story by Abner Benim • Made by Fred Weisberg

SHOWING TO-DAY MAJESTIC At 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.
MR. & MRS. MINIVER TOGETHER AGAIN
In A New Screen Triumph!

M-G-M presents
GREER GARSON
WALTER PIDGEON
"BLOSSOMS IN THE DUST"
in the DUST IN TECHNICOLOR

UNO TEAM MAY ENTER YUGOSLAVIA

Athens, Mar. 13. Dispatches from northern Greece said the Yugo-Slav liaison officer notified the UNO Balkan Investigating Commission to-day that permission had been granted for one of its teams to enter Yugo-Slavia from which it was barred yesterday.

The Commission was reported to have held an emergency session last night at which the United States, British and French delegates protested against what they termed "sabotage of the Commission's task."—Associated Press.

OFFICER BAR IN AUSTRIA'S NEW ARMY

London, Mar. 13. Moscow Radio said the conference of Big Four Foreign Ministers' deputies agreed to-day to bar from the new Austrian army any officer who held the rank of colonel or higher in the wartime army.

The deputies met to continue the drafting of the Austrian peace treaty.

The broadcast said Britain and the United States opposed the French proposal to bar Austrian officers who "served in the Fascist army and were more than twice promoted."

The deputies for Germany "continued their discussion of the procedure for the preparation of the peace treaty with Germany," the radio reported.—Associated Press.

SEARCH FOR DUTCH PLANE CONTINUES

Batavia, Mar. 13. The search was renewed at dawn to-day for the Dutch Air Force plane, carrying two crewmen and 25 passengers, which was reported missing yesterday on a flight from Batavia to Bandoeng, in the interior of Java.

A Dutch spokesman said the search is being pressed both by air and land, was centring around the rugged mountains north of Bandoeng.

At the request of the Dutch, the Indonesian Republican army patrolled mountain areas which are in nationalist hands.

The passengers are all civilians, including nine women and two babies. Fourteen are Europeans, 10 Chinese and one Indonesian.—Associated Press.

KEDAH ROUNDUP

Singapore, Mar. 13. The Kedah police to-day began a roundup of alleged criminals concerned in the recent disturbances on Kedah estates in northern Malaya.

Six Indians have been arrested as the result of complaints by a labourer that he was tied up for drinking to-day during an anti-to-day campaign, with which the strikes and disturbances were concerned.—Reuter.

KINGS

SPECIAL MORNING PERFORMANCE
SUNDAY, 16TH MARCH
AT 11.30 A.M. ONLY

A Little Bit of Heaven

MOONOTHY LAMOUR
FRED MacMURRAY
BETTY HUTTON
with DIANA LYNN

And The Angels Sing

and MIMI CHANDLER
RAYMOND WALSH
EDDIE FOT, Jr.
A Paramount Picture

AT REDUCED PRICES

Marshall To Explain New American Policy To Generalissimo Stalin

Moscow, Mar. 13. Some sources here said to-day that it would have been Gen George C. Marshall, and not President Truman, who would have delivered the pronouncement to Congress if the Secretary of State had not been in Moscow.

Gen Marshall assuredly knew every word of Mr Truman's speech before delivery, and undoubtedly contributed considerably both to its substance and form.

Denazification Report To Conference

London, Mar. 13. The Moscow Radio report on to-day's session of the Big Four Foreign Ministers said that the United States Secretary of State, General George Marshall, opened discussion of denazification of Germany by giving figures on how the plan was being carried out in the United States zone.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, took the chair when the session opened, the broadcast said.

General Marshall reviewed denazification and disarmament plans in the United States zone from the beginning of the occupation, and gave figures on the number of arrested persons, courts set up and investigations under way, but the broadcast commented: "However, giving these figures, Gen Marshall did not say anything about the fact that in the American zone of Germany there are still most prominent Hitlerites at large."

The broadcast said Gen Marshall "moved a resolution on behalf of the American delegation to propose that no change should be taken of the report of the Allied Control Council on denazification and that uniformity should be sought in denazification throughout Germany."

The resolution would entrust the Council with enforcing denazification laws, the broadcast said.—United Press.

Troops Fire On Immigrants

Palestine Arrests

Nicosia, Cyprus, Mar. 13. Five Jews were injured, two seriously when British troops opened fire on illegal immigrants after stones had been thrown at the staff of the immigrants' camp and a British soldier injured.

Two Jews were arrested on charges of escaping yesterday and handed over to the police. Shortly afterwards about 200 illegal immigrants demonstrated, and in spite of repeated warnings, refused to go to their own camp.—Reuter.

78 ARRESTED

Jerusalem, Mar. 13. Seventy-eight persons have been arrested in Palestine during the past fortnight as a result of military operations, it was stated officially in Jerusalem to-night. They included 15 members of the Stern Gang, 12 of the Irgun Zvai Leumi and 51 "connected with terrorism."

The statement added: "Other arrests are still to be made."

Meanwhile unconfirmed reports here to-day stated that a train was blown up to-night between Petahtikvah and Ramatana on the main line. Heavy firing was reported but no casualties.—Reuter.

SHIP AGROUND

Jerusalem, Mar. 13. An army officer swam out with a breeches buoy to-day to the illegal immigrant ship *Susannah*, which ran aground yesterday near Gaza, and 120 Jews still on board were being brought ashore by the buoy.

Earlier, 400 Jews from the ship reached Haifa which was under curfew after an eleven hour journey in army lorries. They were then embarked for Cyprus. A second convoy reached Haifa to-day.—Reuter.

Increasing Jap Coal Output

Tokyo, Mar. 13. Mr Carl D. Ross, Chief of the machinery branch of SCAP's Economic and Scientific Section's industrial division, said yesterday that mine rehabilitation offers the only hope for increasing Japan's coal production in the coming months.

He said if raw materials in Japan were properly utilized and allocated, they would be sufficient to provide new machinery and other essential requirements for mines.

Mr Ross said both food and labor conditions to-day were "as favorable as can be for many months," and for this reason production increase depends upon rehabilitation.

He said SCAP already has sanctioned measures designed to increase production, such as approval of loans to mines, raising the price of coal and strengthening the allocation system.—United Press.

The new Secretary of State will take the first opportunity that presents itself to explain the new American policy to Generalissimo Stalin, it was learned to-day. Apparently, however, it has not been decided whether Gen Marshall shall take the initiative and seek an appointment with Marshal Stalin or await the Kremlin initiative.

The earliest chance may be the Kremlin state dinner, if previous Soviet methods of entertaining are observed. It would at least allow the opportunity for preliminary talk with the Soviet leader, and to arrange later a more formal conversation.

Everywhere in Moscow, in hotel lobbies and embassies, to-day's question was: "What effect will this have on the Big Four sessions?" Soviet officials here are able to answer. It is doubtful, however, if the reaction will be clear for at least another day, although Gen Marshall faces Mr Molotov for the first time since President Truman spoke when the Foreign Ministers met at 4 p.m. at the Elms Club.

No Report in Newspapers

Yvestia published on the back page this morning a 132-word story, quoting unfavourable U.S. senatorial reaction to Mr Truman's speech, which it referred to as a recommendation for loans to Greece and Turkey. Yvestia did not report on the speech itself.

The Tass agency had not carried the speech in its report to newspapers by 9 a.m. to-day, 12 hours after President Truman delivered it.

Many observers question whether Mr Truman's speech will bring a change in Gen Marshall's conference attitude. He said hardly a word during the first three days, sitting quietly, even explaining his change of position yesterday on procedure, and sending things item by item to the deputies.

Several members of delegations remarked on the great contrast thus far between Gen Marshall and Mr James F. Byrnes, who was loquacious and often dominated Council meetings as far as talking was concerned.

The major questions—as yet unanswered—raised by Mr Truman's speech are: "What effect will it have on decisions regarding Germany here, and what will be the Soviet reaction—passive or retaliatory?"—United Press.

REIGN OF TERROR IN FORMOSA

Nanking, Mar. 13. After the arrival of Government reinforcements in Formosa, the reign of terror returned, according to the 13-man "Comfort Mission" which has just returned from Formosa.

The Mission charged Governor Chen Yi of having abandoned his promises of reform, and resorting to force and terrorism to suppress the population.

Over 200 Formosans have been arrested and others killed and missing. Taipei is described as a ghost city, and the population are afraid to leave their homes.

Rioting is still going on in several towns and the rebels are controlling communication lines and towns, but have handed back seven cities to the Government.

Taipei, the capital, is also experiencing a rice shortage.

The Mission denied reports from Hongkong that the Formosan Democratic League has appealed to the United Nations for placing Formosa under UNO mandate.—Reuter.

Russians Plan Financial Rule Of Western Zones

Berlin, Mar. 13. Soviet agents are preparing for the economic invasion of Western Germany after the end of an inconclusive Moscow conference, it was learned here to-day.

The Russians are arming themselves, German sources say, with instruments of capitalism—industrial stocks. In the eastern zone, the Soviet occupation authorities have seized big industry for co-operation within Germany after the programme of dismantling machinery and shipping it to Russia had failed to realise expectations.

It was also learned to-day that German owners of expropriated factories are not being compensated. In negotiations here before the Moscow conference, Russia sought to requisition present and future production of western zone factories as reparations.

The proposal was opposed by the United States and Britain, who want the industrial output of their zone to be applied against costs of essential imports, mainly food.

POCKET CARTOON



WODEHOUSE TO SETTLE IN AMERICA

Paris, Mar. 14. Mr P. G. Wodehouse sails for New York on March 18 with a pocket full of lyrics, a new butler supplanting his historic Jeeves, and a play that puts the United States Army's mythical "Kilroy" down among the Blandings Castle set in England. It is called "Kilroy Was There."

Mrs Wodehouse and their aging Pekinese, which went through German internment with them, will accompany the author on his first trip to the United States since before the war.

A manuscript of Wodehouse's new play will leave by plane ahead of him. It is being carried over by Marcel Bernard, the French tennis champion, whose family looked after Mrs Wodehouse during the German occupation.

Bernard flies to the United States next Tuesday for a tennis tour with Jean Borotra and Jacques Brugnon.

New Butler Named Spink

In the play, Wodehouse lets Kilroy mingle with characters of the Bertie Wooster type, and introduces a new butler named Spink. He said he planned to get back to Jeeves some day.

Blandings Castle itself gets another setting in his latest novel, "Full Moon," which will be published in the United States in May.

Mr Wodehouse said he expects to stay in the United States—that is where the big market is, he explained—and return to England only for visits. He is anxious to get back to Broadway to talk to old friends. He is still unhappy, he said, that his six widely publicised broadcasts from Berlin were "misinterpreted." His message recordings, he felt, were not more representative than writing letters.—Associated Press.

FINED FOR BOGUS 'PHONE CALLS

Oxford, Mar. 13. Twenty-two-year-old Dirk Roosevelt, grandson of Theodore Roosevelt, and two other Oxford undergraduates were fined £25 to-day for making bogus telephone calls, apparently as a prank to see if they could get ambulance drivers out looking for a friend whom they represented as mad.—United Press.

American Killed In Armed Robbery

Manila, Mar. 13. An American lumberman was killed and a Filipino chauffeur wounded when four armed men riddled their automobile with rifle bullets and robbed a \$7,000 payroll in Baguio.

The American is Emil Jorgensen, 63. He died instantly from a bullet wound in the head.—United Press.

Savoy Hotel Strike

London, Mar. 13. The catering staff at the Savoy Hotel struck to-night just as it was about to serve dinner, and dining room and grill room patrons were forced to eat elsewhere.

The strikers said 600 men and women had ceased work in a protest against the dismissal of a steward. The management promised a statement later.—United Press.

Japan May Apply For US Anti-Communist Loan

Tokyo, Mar. 14. High official Japanese financial circles are already discussing the possibility of Japan applying for an "anti-Communist" loan from the United States along the lines of the proposed aid to Greece and Turkey, it is learned by the United Press.

President Truman's message to Congress on the eastern Mediterranean situation has led some Japanese to believe that there is hope that America will aid this country's reconstruction also—to protect the new democratic trend here.

An informant who attended one of these meetings told the United Press the Japanese are investigating methods to be followed in actually trying to secure United States funds. It seems the best chance to get a loan for reconstruction, the informant said, would be if "we can prove that Japan will go Communist without outside aid."

He said the Japanese probably will not take any open action until they see how Congress treats Mr Truman's request for aid to Greece and Turkey.

Smuts Visits Royal Family

Harris, Mar. 13. The Royal Family to-day warmly greeted Field Marshal Jan Christian Smuts, the South African Premier, who is to spend a week-end of rest and recreation with them in the National Park in Natal.

Field Marshal Smuts talked with correspondents at Harris station with the greatest affability, but declined to be drawn into a serious interview.

Concerning President Truman's "aid to Greece and Turkey" plan, and the United Nations, he remarked lightly: "Do not try to convince us too fast. I like a little white barbarism."—Associated Press.

Hongkong Police Reserve

DRILL PARADES

All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend Murray Parade Ground on Monday, and Wednesday, March 17 and 19 at 5.30 p.m., for drill parades. Dress—uniform.

INSPECTION

All ranks of Nos. 1 and 2 Companies will attend Murray Parade Ground on Friday, March 21 at 5 p.m., for an inspection by the Commissioner of Police. Dress—uniform.

COMMENDATION

C. I. (R) T's Chi On is commended for the capture of a snatcher when on duty.

Sgt. T. O. T'SO, Senior Superintendent of Police, (Reserve).

H.K.V.D.C. ORDERS

Orders by Lt.-Colonel E. J. R. Mitchell, O.B.E., D.S.O., Commanding H.K.V.D.C. Order No. 747 dated 12th March, 1947.

Adjutant: Captain J. Weston, G.M., the Devonshire Regiment, assumed the appointment of Adjutant, H.K.V.D.C. on 1st March, 1947, vice Captain A. H. G. Morrison, 2 G.I.

Part 2 Orders:

1. Arrival: Pte. Barton J. F. (5 Dec. 46).

2. Strength—Decrease: 4843 Pte. Yvanovitch V. (No. 6 Coy (4 Mar.)), 3050 Pte. Way W.K. (No. 3 Coy (4 Mar.)).

(Signed) J. WESTON, Captain, Adjutant, H.K.V.D.C. Corps.

OUTWARD MAILS

Unless otherwise stated, Registered Articles and Parcel Postage 50 minutes earlier than the time stated below.

Friday, March 14

Airmail: Canton, 3.30 p.m.; Bangkok, 3.30 p.m.; Bagkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Bazaar, Cairo, Johannesburg, Augusta, Mauritius, London, New York, Canada, 3.30 p.m.

Seamail: Ceylon, India, East Africa, 3 p.m.; Shanghai, 2 p.m.; Mauritius, South Africa (via Durban), 3 p.m.; Straits, Egypt, Europe (via London), 3 p.m.

Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m.; Hongkong, 4 p.m.; Straits, Egypt, Europe (via London), 3 p.m.

Train: Canton, 4 p.m.; Saturday, March 15

Airmail: Canton, Luchow, Kuning, 3.30 p.m.; Bangkok, Singapore, Colombo, Surabaya, Sydney, Auckland, 3.30 p.m.

Seamail: Canton, 3.30 p.m.; Bagkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Delhi, Johannesburg, Cairo, London, 3.30 p.m.

Seamail: Swatow, 10 a.m.; Shanghai, 2 p.m.; U.S.A., Central and South America, Canada (via San Francisco), 3 p.m.; Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 4 p.m.; Canada (via Vancouver), 2 p.m.; Shanghai, Honolulu, 4 p.m.

Train: Canton, 4 p.m.; Sunday, March 16

Airmail: Canton, Amoy, Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Tientsin, Peking, 10 a.m.

Seamail: Canton, 9 a.m.; Macao, Tientsin, Shekhi, 10 a.m.; Swatow, Bangkok, 10 a.m.; Haiphong, 10 a.m.

Train: Canton, 10 a.m.

TO-DAY'S BROADCAST

ZBW on 845 Kilocycles from 12.30 to 2 p.m. and 8.30 to 11 p.m., and also on 9.55 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.15, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9 to 11 p.m.

11.15 p.m. "Film Memories": 7 London Relay: World News; 11.10 London Relay: Home News from Britain; 7.15 "Romance and Rhythm"; 7.10 Studio: "You Asked For It"—Variety Request Programme Arranged by Lynn Fraser; 6.55 Martin's Moments; 6.50 London Relay: News; 6.40 Studio: Piano recital by Luba Shafarin; A. Beethoven Programme with brief Commentary by F. Ryan; 6.35, 6.40 Fabio Casella and His Cello; 10.10 Berlin State Opera Orchestra; 10.25 Verdi's "Otello"—Act 4. Performed by the Principals, Chorus and Orchestra of La Scala Opera House, Milan; 11 Close Down.

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